

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Maurice B. STEINMAN et al.	§ § §	Anticipated Group Art Unit:	2189
Serial No.:	Not Yet Assigned	§		
Filed:	Concurrently Herewith	§ §	Anticipated Examiner:	Tim T. Vo
For:	Computer Architecture And System For Efficient Management Of Bi-Directional Bus	§ § § §	Docket No.:	200301842-2

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: February 17, 2004

Sir:

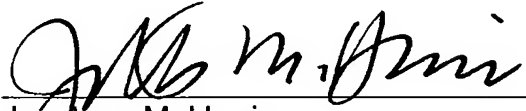
At least some of the claims in this continuation application (claim 1 for instance) are carried over from the parent case (Serial No. 09/652,323). As Applicants previously explained, claim 1 addresses reducing "the number of transitions between read transactions and write transactions." In the Examiner's Final Office Action dated June 2, 2003, the Examiner stated:

6. In response to newly amended feature 'to reduce number of transitions between read transactions and write transaction' does not change scope of claims because once a read and a write transaction is being selected to read or write in a read and a write queue would reduce number of transactions in the queues. For example if there were N of transaction in the read and write queue. When a transaction is being selected to read or write the N of transaction would become N-1 of transactions. For this reason the rejection from previous office sustained.

The Examiner appears to have misread claim 1. Claim 1 refers to reducing "transitions" between reads and writes, while the Examiner refers to reducing the number of "transactions." The Examiner's point appears to be that issuing a transaction from a queue naturally reduces the number of transactions in that queue. Agreed. Claim 1, however, refers to reducing transitions between read

transactions and write transactions. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider this issue when revisiting the patentability of claim 1.

Respectfully submitted,



Jonathan M. Harris
PTO Reg. No. 44,144
CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
(713) 238-8000 (Phone)
(713) 238-8008 (Fax)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
Legal Dept., M/S 35
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400